

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: Athol Survey Number: HO-37

Tax Parcel#: 108

Project: Maryland 216/29 Project Planning Study Agency: MDOT-SHA

Site visit by MHT Staff: no yes Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility recommended X Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria: X A    B X C    D Considerations:    A    B    C    D    E    F    G    None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Athol, at 6680 Martin Road, is eligible due to the fact that it does meet National Register Criteria A and C. Preliminary research has not revealed any association between the dwelling and the lives of persons significant in our past (Criterion B). There is no evidence that the property is likely to yield information important in history or prehistory (Criterion D). The property does, however, reveal an association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history (Criterion A). It also provides an example of the Georgian style; it is unusual and distinguished and it does display high artistic merit (Criterion C). Thus, the property is National Register-eligible.

The property known historically as Athol is located at 6680 Martin Road, overlooking Route 29. The manor house known as Athol was originally built as the rectory for the Old Brick Church in Guilford, which was established in 1728. The building was constructed between 1732 and 1740 in the Georgian style for James MacGill, the first Episcopal minister to serve the church, on 600 acres of land granted by King Charles on August 17, 1732. In honor of his ancestral home in Scotland, MacGill patented the property under the name of "Athol." The rectory, splendidly detailed and constructed of fine local materials including granite, oak, walnut, and pine, reflected the importance of the position the church held within Colonial society and the craftsmanship of the immigrant Scottish masons who were responsible for the construction of the building. The property remained in the MacGill family until about the early part of the 19th century, when it was subsequently subdivided. The former rectory, retaining the name Athol, has been restored and stands as one of the oldest dwellings in Howard County.

~~DO NOT CONCUR -- NOT ELIGIBLE~~

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form  
and Maryland 29/216 Project Planning Report

Prepared by: Traceries, 5420 Western Ave., Chevy Chase, MD 20815 October 1997

[Signature]  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

2/10/98  
Date

NR program concurrence: X yes    no    not applicable

[Signature]  
Reviewer, NR Program

3/21/99  
Date

[Signature]

## **CAPSULE SUMMARY**

Athol  
6680 Martin Road  
(HO-37)

The property known historically as Athol is located at 6680 Martin Road, overlooking Route 29. Designed in the Georgian style, Athol is a two-and-a-half-story masonry house with a coursed stone foundation and coursed granite walls. The house, constructed between 1732-1740, has a central-passage, single-pile plan. It is covered with a steeply pitched side gable roof that is clad with asphalt shingle. Ornamented with bedmolding, the boxed cornice returns at the northeast and southwest elevations. The original portion of the house has strict symmetry accentuated with stone quoining, elongated double-hung windows, central entries at the facade and rear elevations, and flanking interior end coursed stone chimneys.

The Georgian manor house known as Athol was originally built as the rectory for the Old Brick Church in Guilford, which was established in 1728. The building was constructed between 1732 and 1740 for James MacGill, the first episcopal minister to serve the church, on 600 acres of land granted by King Charles on August 17, 1732. In honor of his ancestral home in Scotland, MacGill patented the property under the name of "Athol." The rectory, splendidly detailed and constructed of fine local materials including granite, oak, walnut, and pine, reflected the importance of the position the church held within Colonial society and the craftsmanship of the immigrant Scottish masons who were responsible for the construction of the building. The property remained in the MacGill family until about the early part of the 19th century, when it was subsequently subdivided. The former rectory, retaining the name Athol, has been restored and stands as one of the oldest dwellings in Howard County.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. HO-037

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Athol

common/other name \_\_\_\_\_

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number 6680 Martin Road not for publication \_\_\_\_\_

city or town Columbia vicinity \_\_\_\_\_ state Maryland code MD

county Howard code 027 zip code \_\_\_\_\_

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification N/A

=====

4. National Park Service Certification N/A

=====

5. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

- ☒ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)  
☐ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing      Noncontributing

<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Is this property listed in the National Register?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No ☒

Name of Listing \_\_\_\_\_

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=====  
6. Function or Use  
=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling  
RELIGION Church-Related Residence

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

=====  
7. Description  
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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Georgian  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Solid: Coursed Stone  
roof Side Gable: Asphalt Shingles  
walls Masonry: Coursed Stone  
other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1



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8. Statement of Significance  
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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or a grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

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=====  
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Religion  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance ca. 1732 - present  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates 1732-1740

1768  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation Undefined  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

*1798 Federal Direct Tax for Anne Arundel County, Maryland.* Located on microfilm at Maryland Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

Holland, Celia M. *Old Homes and Families of Howard County, Maryland.* Privately Printed, 1987.

Howard County Land Records, Recorder of Deeds, Howard County, Ellicott City, Maryland

Maryland Historical Trust Worksheet, "HO-37: Athol." Prepared by Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist, Comprehensive Planning Section, Ellicott City, Maryland.

Stein, Charles Francis, Jr. *Origin and History of Howard County, Maryland.* Baltimore, MD: Howard County Historical Society, 1972.

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property 2.3362 acres

**Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)**

The property at 6680 Martin Road is designated as Parcel 108, as indicated on Map 36, Grid 19.

**Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)**

The property at 6680 Martin Road has historically been associated with Parcel 108 since the building's construction in the eighteenth century.

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11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title A.B. Lowery & K.A. Gettings, Architectural Historians  
organization Traceries date Nov. 11, 1997  
street & number 5420 Western Ave. telephone (301)656-5283  
city or town Chevy Chase state MD zip code 20815

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12. Property Owner

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name Edwina Dike  
street & number 15554 Prince Frederick Way telephone (301)598-5282  
city or town Silver Spring state MD zip code 20906

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Athol  
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county and state

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The property known historically as Athol is located at 6680 Martin Road, overlooking Old Columbia Road. Designed in the Georgian style, Athol is a two-and-a-half-story masonry house with a coursed stone foundation and coursed granite walls. The house, constructed 1732-1740, has a centra-passage, single-pile plan. It is covered with a steeply pitched side gable roof that is clad with asphalt shingle. Ornamented with bedmolding, the boxed cornice returns at the northeast and southwest elevations. The original portion of the house has strict symmetry accentuated with stone quoining, elongated double-hung windows, central entries at the facade and rear elevations, and flanking interior end coursed stone chimneys.

The house has sustained two additions at the northeast elevation: an uncoursed stone addition, 1-1/2 stories in height, in 1768, and a one story wood frame conservatory addition with a random stone foundation in the 1980s. Additionally, wood frame dormers with front gables and 6/6 windows were unequally placed at the facade and rear elevations.

Sited between Martin Road and Columbia Pike, Athol is set on a hill to the west of Columbia Pike. The large lot is densely wooded at the sides and the rear. A wood fence defines the northeastern and northwestern boundaries, and the area around the house is landscaped with bushes and mature trees. A circular drive extends from Martin Road to the southeast elevation of the house.

**EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION:**

Overlooking Columbia Pike to the southeast, the facade of Athol expresses its two-and-a-half-story height and five-bay width with evenly spaced openings. The main body of the house contains a central entrance reached by a flight of stone steps. The opening is filled with a replacement double-leaf panelled door, Italianate in style. The opening is trimmed with ovolo casings, and crowned with a three-light transom and a narrow lug lintel. Secured with brick surrounds, elongated 4/4 replacement sash windows flank the main entry. Each of the window openings is detailed with ovolo casings, wood sills, and narrow lug lintels. The dominating side gable roof is pierced by three front gable dormers, each filled with replacement 6/6 metal sash windows with square-edged casings. The dormers, clad with asbestos shingles, are proportionally too wide for the original period of construction. Based on the architectural style of the building, it is believed they replaced original dormer that were more slender in width. The symmetrical balance of the facade is supported by the two imposing interior end

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stone chimneys.

The southwest elevation of the building remains symmetrically intact as originally designed. The first story is marked by two 6/6 windows with wood sills and narrow lug lintels. The second story has two metal sash windows, one of which is 6/6 and one of which is 4/4. The upper half story contains two one-light casement windows. The openings of the second and half stories have more modest surrounds of wood and no lintels. The cornice returns at this elevation, extending with an overhanging to the ridgeline of the roof.

True to the Georgian style, the rear or northwest elevation is symmetrically and virtually identical, save the number of bays. The reduction of openings denotes this elevation was historically the rear of the building, a more private space where the displaying ornament, style, and wealth were limited. The original main block of the elevation is three bays wide with a central-passage plan.

The foundation of the rear elevation is pierced by two 6-light wood casement windows. The first story is marked by the double-wide central entry. The replacement wood and glass doors are recessed within the opening, surrounded by square-edge casings with an ovolo bead, a three-light transom, and narrow lug lintel. Like the facade, the entry is accessed by a flight of stone steps that form a small patio. Almost symmetrically above the foundation openings are the elongated 4/4 replacement sash windows. Each has ovolo casings, narrow lug lintels, and wood sills. Again unequally spaced, three front gable dormers protrude from the roof with 6/6 metal sashes.

This elevation is unbalanced by the constructed of the 1768 addition to the northeast side of the building. Extending the wall plane of the rear elevation, the addition is one bay in width with a side gable roof that does not extend to the ridgeline of the main roof. The addition has a standard size window opening with a 6/6 windows at the first story. The roof is penetrated by a front gable wall dormer that interrupts the boxed cornice crudely. The asbestos clad dormer holds a 6/6 metal window.

Marked by the two additions, the northeast elevation of the main block is visible at the second story and the gable end only in part. The elevation was originally identically symmetrical to the southwest elevation, yet retains only one of the second story window openings, not filled with a 4/4 replacement sash. The gable



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end, or upper half story, contains a single one-light casement windows. The openings of the second and half stories have modest surrounds of wood and no lintels. The cornice returns at this elevation, extending with an overhanging to the ridgeline of the roof.

The largest addition to the northeast elevation was constructed in 1768 of uncoursed stone. It is covered by a side gable roof with a steeper pitch to the northwest, allowing it to match the pitch of the main roofline. Physical evidence indicates the northeast side of the 1768 addition had an exterior end chimney of stone, the base of which remains. Ghosting of the chimney stack is visible around the paired six-light casement windows that now pierce the first story of the elevation. The opening is trimmed with square-edged surrounds, a thick mullion, and an imposing lug lintel of stone. To the east of where the chimney stack once rose is a single window opening filled with a 6/6 metal sash. This opening is similarly finished with a wood sill, ovolo casings, and lug stone lintels.

The most recent addition, a one-story conservatory erected in the 1980s, is addressed separately to allow the historic main block and its significant addition to the visualized. This wood frame addition, set on a rubble stone foundation, has been constructed on the northeast elevation of the main block and the southeast elevation of the 1768 addition. It has a low sloping roof, overhanging eaves, a boxed cornice, and bedmolding. The weatherboard clad walls are marked by rows of 9/9 metal sash windows, separated by imposing ovolo-molded mullions of aluminum. The slightly elongated openings are finished with a continuous wood sill and square-edged casings. The addition has a single exterior entry opening on the southeast elevation that is filled with a multi-light door and a three-light transom. Above this 1980s addition is the second story of the 1768 stone addition, punctuated by two replacement 6/6 metal sash windows.

Of particular note is the undated historic photograph submitted with the 1977 Maryland Historical Trust Worksheet. This photograph shows that the south 1768 addition was largely obscured by a two-bay wide porch set on brick piers. The sloping roof of the porch was supported by square posts. The photograph also indicates that the first story of the southeast elevation of the main block was covered by a five-bay wide wood frame porch, set upon stone piers. The sloping roof was supported by tapering Doric columns ornamented with cross balusters. Most notably was the wood frame lantern set at the center of the roof ridge. Proportionally out-of-scale to

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the house, the imposing lantern was clad with weatherboard, pierced by paired 2/2 wood sash windows, and capped by a pyramidal roof. It was adorned with scrolled brackets, thick mullions, and recessed panels below the openings. The lantern and the two above mentions porches, all of which appear to have been constructed in the latter part of the 19th century, were subsequently removed in the 1980s.

**OUTBUILDINGS:**

To the south of the house is a wood frame garage that dates from the 1930s or 1940s. The garage is clad in board and batten and covered with a front gable roof sheathed in asphalt shingles. To the west of the house is a shed that dates from the same period. Similarly constructed of wood frame, the shed is also clad in board and batten siding. It has a side gable roof of standing seam metal.



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The Georgian manor house known as Athol was originally built as the rectory for the Old Brick Church in Guilford, which was established in 1728. The building was constructed between 1732 and 1740 for James MacGill, the first Episcopal minister to serve the church, on 600 acres of land granted by King Charles on August 17, 1732.<sup>1</sup> In honor of his ancestral home in Scotland, MacGill patented the property under the name of "Athol." The rectory, splendidly detailed and constructed of fine local materials including granite, oak, walnut, and pine, reflected the importance of the position the church held within Colonial society and the craftsmanship of the immigrant Scottish masons who were responsible for the construction of the building. The property remained in the MacGill family until about the early part of the 19th century, when it was subsequently subdivided. The former rectory, retaining the name Athol, has been restored and stands as one of the oldest dwellings in Howard County.

The Old Brick Church, the first church of Queen Caroline Parish, was attended by many of the areas prominent families such as the Dorseys, Griffiths, Hammonds, Howards, Ridgelys, Shipleys, and Worthingtons. Pew holders included Thomas Worthington, Caleb Dorsey, and Judge R. Ridgely, to name a few. Athol was constructed between 1732 and 1740 for James MacGill, the first Episcopal minister to serve the Old Brick Church. The original land grant for the property, which was comprised of 600 acres, from King Charles to James MacGill was bestowed on August 17, 1732. The grant reads:

Charles R. know ye that forein considoral that the Rev. James MacGill of Ann Arundel County in our Province of Maryland due unto him 600 acres of land with in our same province by virtue of two warrant for that quantity granted him, the one for 400 acres, bearing date 1st day of Septem 17 and 30 and the other for the remaining 200 acres bearing date the 19 Jan. in the same year as appeared in our land office and upon such condition and forms as are expressed in our conditions of plantation of our said Provence bearing date the 5th day of April 1684 and remain upon record in our Provence. Together with such attention as in them are made by our further considerations, bearing date the 4th day of December 1696. Together also with t he attention made by our instructions,

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<sup>1</sup> The 1977 MHT form for Athol notes a dated stone lintel on the south elevation. No physical evidence of this inscription was located.

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bearing date London at London the 12th day of September 1712 and registered in our secretary's office of our said Province, we do therefore, hereby grant unto him the said James MacGill all that tract or parcell of land called Athol, lying and being in the county aforesaid in a for the Patuxent River called Winkepin....<sup>2</sup>

A dated stone marker, now on adjacent property, was inscribed Athol, 1730.

MacGill brought with him masons from Scotland to erect his "English castle." A quarry at the southern tip of the 600-acres property supplied the granite for the walls, chimneys and piers, and local oak pine and walnut trees supplied the wood for the floors, joists, stair, and trim.

During his years as Rector, James MacGill amassed large land holdings in what was then Anne Arundel County. These included the acquisition of the property known as "New Year's Gift" from Caleb and John Dorsey in 1738 (Liber RD 3, Folio 85), the purchase of 237 acres known as "Brown's Hopyard" and "William's Lot" from Able Brown in 1748 (Liber RB 3, Folio 52), and the transfer of "Scanthings Lot" from Laurence MacMamard in 1750 (Liber RB 3, Folio 269).

MacGill continued to serve as the rector of the Old Brick Church until 1779. He died two years later, leaving his property, then amounting to 837 acres, to his children James, Robert, Sarah, Anne, Mary and Caroline. Although the chain of title is incomplete, the 1798 Federal Direct Tax reveals that the MacGills continued to own and occupy the property in the late eighteenth century. This tax list records that in addition to three of the MacGill sisters, Nehemiah Moxley, Sr. owned and occupied a portion of the original Athol property. In 1844, Nehemiah Moxley, Jr., who apparently acquired the land from his father, transfers his portion of the property to Alexander Hammond. Nicolas Worthington of John, who is recorded in 1866 as owner of another portion of Athol, seems to have acquired the land through family relationships as well. Thomas Worthington of John is also listed as owner of acreage at Athol in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax.

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<sup>2</sup> Cleora B. Thompson, "Maryland Historical Trust Worksheet," circa 1977.

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According to Celia Holland in *Old Homes and Families of Howard County, Maryland*, two grave sites were located at Athol, although neither is associated with the property any longer because of numerous subdivisions. The property containing the grave site to the north passed out of the family when the land was sold. At that time, the bodies were reinterred elsewhere. The burial ground to the east was also sold, and the tombstones gradually disappeared, leaving the location of the site unmarked.

Throughout most of the first half of the 19th century, Athol was owned and occupied by the family of Alexander Hammond. In 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, the property was conveyed by trustees to Bradley S. Dixon. At the time of the sale, the former rectory held just 147 acres, purchased at \$22 an acres. Dixon retained ownership until his death in 1897, when the property was sold at a public auction for \$3,200 to Jennie M. Geaslen. By 1902, Athol had been purchased by John W. and Annie Stromberg. Annie Stromberg was able to purchase an additional 20 acres of the original patent in 1920, thus enlarging the property to over 150 acres.

During the period between 1927, when Stromberg died, and 1952, Athol was conveyed numerous times and the acreage continuously reduced. Tross and Edwina Dike purchased the house, then sitting on seven acres, in 1952. Over the years, the Dikes have restored Athol to its 1768 appears, when the significant random stone addition was constructed.

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Development Period (s):

Rural Agrarian Intensification (1680-1815)  
Agricultural-Industrial Transition (1815-1870)  
Industrial/ Urban Dominance (1870-1930)  
Modern Period (1930-present)

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme (s):

Architecture, Landscape, and Community  
Planning  
Religion

RESOURCE TYPE(S)

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function (s): DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling  
RELIGION/Church Related Residence

Known Design Source: Unknown

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**Chain of Title:**

August 17, 1732: King Charles to James MacGill  
Original Land Grant  
600 acres known as Athole  
Patent Records of Anne Arundel County  
Liber 8 Folio 604

1781: James MacGill to James MacGill  
James MacGill passes his property to his  
eldest son through his will

1782: James MacGill (Junior) to Sarah, Anne, Mary  
and Caroline McGill  
James MacGill (Junior) transfers the Athol  
property to his four sisters

September 11, 1790: John MacGill and Patrick MacGill, executors of  
John MacGill, Sr.'s will to Anne, Mary and  
Caroline MacGill  
John MacGill, Sr. empowers John and Patrick  
(presumably his sons) to sell his land in  
"Elkridge" part of a tract called "Athol  
Enlarged"  
139 acres  
Land Records of Anne Arundel County  
Liber NH 5 Folio 360

1798: 1798 Federal Direct Tax  
Lists Owners of "Athol Enlarged":  
Mary, Anne and Caroline MacGill  
and Nehemiah Moxley, Sr.  
Property divided into three lots, each with a  
residence set on 2 acres of land

Deed A:

December 5, 1844 James Shipley to Nehemiah Moxley (father of  
Elizabeth Shipley)  
Sold 322 acres for \$1500  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber RLM 5 Folio 345

December 5, 1844 Nehemiah Moxley, Jr. to Alexander Hammond  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber RLM 5 Folio 347

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November 22, 1853	Alexander and Elizabeth Hammond to James S. and Margaret Ann Phelps, Mary Ellen Shipley, and Alexander and Elizabeth Hammond Equal shares granted to sisters, Margaret Ann Phelps, Mary Ellen Shipley, and Elizabeth Ann Hammond Land Records of Howard County Liber 14 Folio 158
November 22, 1853	Mary Ellen Shipley (sister of Margaret Ann Phelps) to James S. Phelps and Alexander Hammond Selling interest (one-third) in Athol Enlarged, four lots, for \$900 Land Records of Howard County Liber 14 Folio 160
November 22, 1853	James S. and Margaret A. Phelps to Alexander Hammond Selling their share of 322 acres of Athol Enlarged, the estate of James Shipley Land Records of Howard County Liber 14 Folio 162
June 4, 1863	M. Bannon, trustee, of Arthur P. Gorman (administrator of Peter Gorman's estate) v. Alexander and Elizabeth Hammond to Bradley S. Dixon Sold 147.5 acres of 4 parcels of Athol Enlarged and an additional 15 acres, 1 rood, and 36 perches for \$22 per acre Land Records of Howard County Liber WWW 22 Folio 467
October 21, 1897	John T. and Sarah E. Dixon, executors of the estate of Bradley S. Dixon to Jennie M. Geaslen Sold two parcels of Athol Enlarged at public auction on August 12, 1897 for \$3200 Bradley S. Dixon deceased May 31, 1897 (Wills Liber IS 3, Folio 462) Land Records of Howard County Liber JHO 67 Folio 567



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January 11, 1902	Jennie M. and James Stocker Geaslen to John W. Stromberg Sold 162 acres, 3 roods, and 36 square perches (save three exceptions totalling approximately 30 acres) near Atholton Post Office for \$4300 Land Records of Howard County Liber JHO 74 Folio 640
April 7, 1914	John W. Stromberg to Annie C. Stromberg Conveyed 133 acres, 3 roods, and 23 square perches (two parcels) Land Records of Howard County Liber WWLC 97 Folio 55
<u>Deed B:</u>	
1798:	1798 Federal Direct Tax Lists Owners of part of "Athol Enlarged": Thomas Worthington (of John)
October 19, 1866	Nicholas Worthington (of John), estate devised to Mary Ann and John R. Clarke Property includes Worthington's Improvements and Athol Enlarged; Nicholas Worthington deceased, Wills Liber 1, Folio 91 Land Records of Howard County Liber LJW 26 Folio 6
January 25, 1902	John H. Owings, trustee for court case of Susan D. Clarke, for infant children plaintiff v. Mary B. Clarke, et al., defendant, to Thomas O'Neill John Clarke died intestate February 1890 Susan D. Clarke deceased, 72 acres, 1 rood conveyed for \$1085.43 Land Records of Howard County Liber JHO 74 Folio 638
January 22, 1909	Thomas and Annie O'Neill to Charles Holland Sold 20.75 acres, part of previous land for \$618.75 Land Records of Howard County Liber WWLC 88 Folio 317



MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-037

Athol

name of property

Howard County, MD

county and state

=====

June 2, 1920	Charles and Eva W. Holland to Annie Stromberg 20.75 acres conveyed Land Records of Howard County Liber HBN 110 Folio 228
<u>Deeds A and B:</u>	
October 31, 1927	James Clark, trustee to sell estate of Annie C. Stromberg in case of Mary V.S. Eusor et al, plaintiffs, vs. Catherine Stromberg, infant defendant, to Paul E. Stromberg Equity case #2930 Land Records of Howard County Liber HBN 132 Folio 80
October 31, 1927	Paul E. Stromberg to Melvin I. and Emma Mildred Coar Land Records of Howard County Liber HBN 132 Folio 83
April 13, 1946	Melvin I. and Emma Mildred Coar to Walter van Durand Three parcels totalling approximately 36 acres Land Records of Howard County Liber BMJr. 189 Folio 204
July 24, 1950	Walter and Angela A. van Durand to John L. Clark, unmarried Land Records of Howard County Liber MWB 218 Folio 406

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-037

Athol

name of property

Howard County, MD

county and state

=====

July 24, 1950	John L. Clark, unmarried, to Walter and Angela A. van Durand Land Records of Howard County Liber MWB 218 Folio 408
May 26, 1952	Walter van Durand and Angela A. Hopkins (formerly van Durand) to Ernest N. Cory Land Records of Howard County Liber MWB 235 Folio 237
August 11, 1952	Ernest N. Cory, Jr., Trustee, to Walter van Durand Land Records of Howard County Liber MWB 235 Folio 240
December 23, 1952	Walter and Ann S. van Durand to Tross H. and Edwina Dike 7.135 acres Land Records of Howard County Liber MWB 239 Folio 272
September 7, 1990	Colonial Pipeline Co. to Edwina Dike Easement deeded back by company previously known as Sinclair Refining Company (originally granted March 11, 1942 by Melvin I. and Emma Mildred Coar, Liber BMJr. 174, Folio 221) Land Records of Howard County Liber 2225 Folio 357

# RESOURCE SKETCH MAP

6680

Rte. 29

HO-037

Old Columbia Rd., Columbia, Howard County, MD

Athol

N

To Martin Rd.

frame shed

wood fence

frame garage

2-story stone addn.

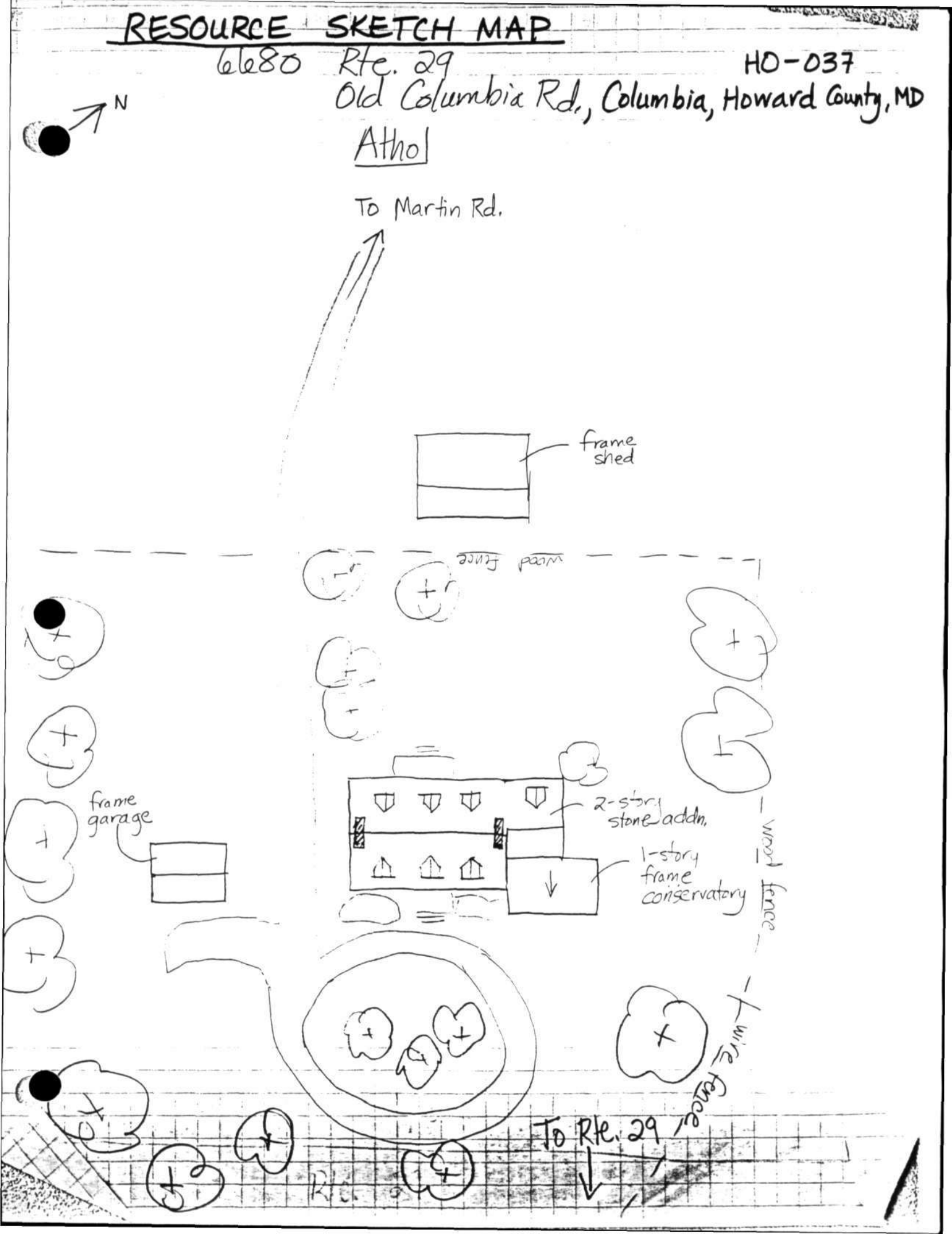
1-story frame conservatory

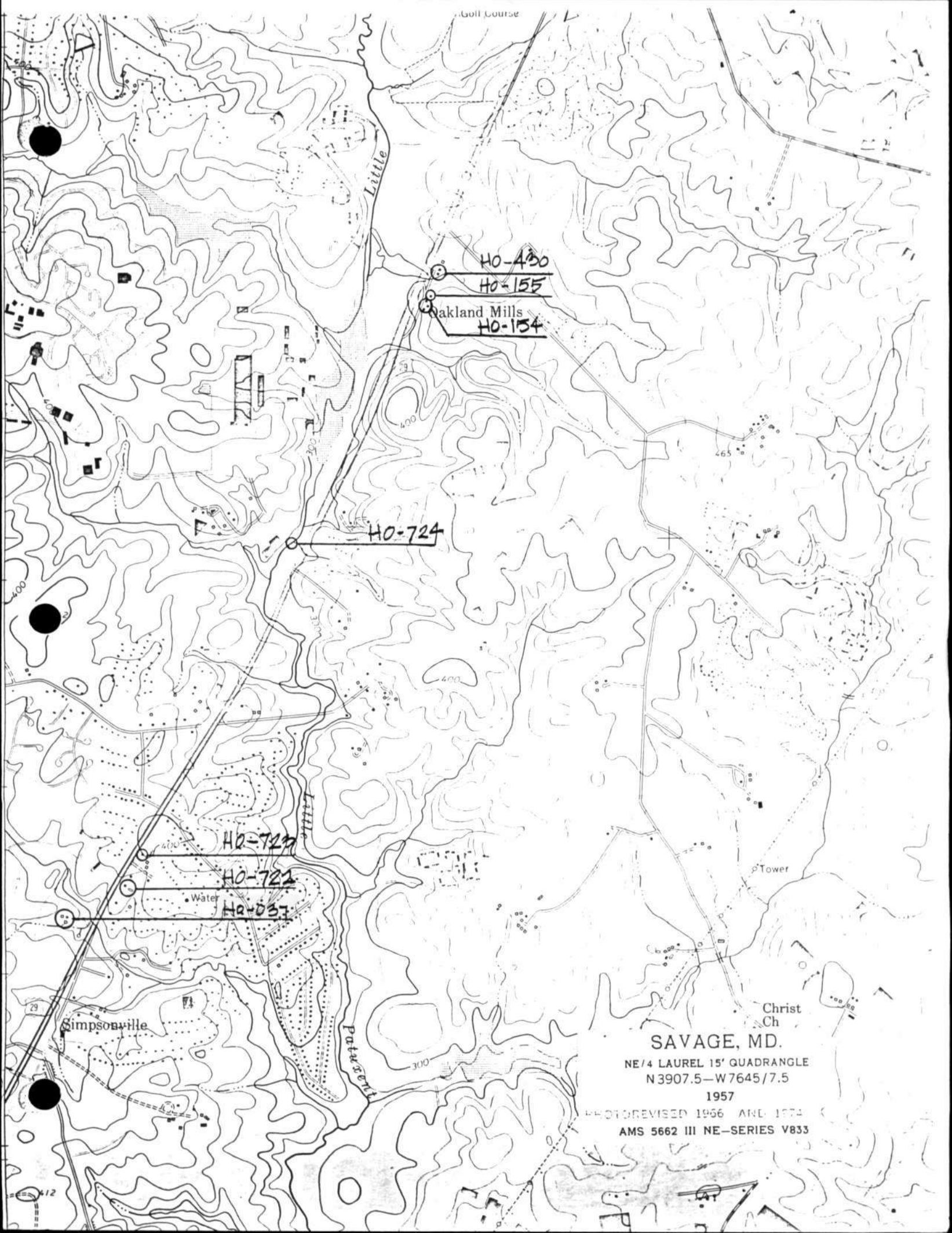
wood fence

wire fence

To Rte. 29

Rd.





HO-430

HO-155

Oakland Mills

HO-154

HO-724

HO-723

HO-721

HO-037

Simpsonville

Patuxent

Christ Ch

SAVAGE, MD.

NE 1/4 LAUREL 15' QUADRANGLE  
N 3907.5—W 7645/7.5

1957

PHOTOREVISED 1956 AND 1974  
AMS 5662 III NE—SERIES V833



HO-037

Athol

Howard County, MD

Traceries

10/97

MD SHPO

House, SE elevation

# of 10





HO-037

Atthol

Howard County, MD

Tracenes

10/97

MD SHPO

House, southwest elevation

2 of 10



HO-D37

Athol

Howard County, MD

Tracentes

10/97

MD SHPO

House, northwest elevation

2 of 10



HO-037

Alt 01

Howard County, MD

Traceries

10/197

MD SHPO

House, northwest elevation

4 of 10



HO-037

Athol

Howard County, MD

Traceries

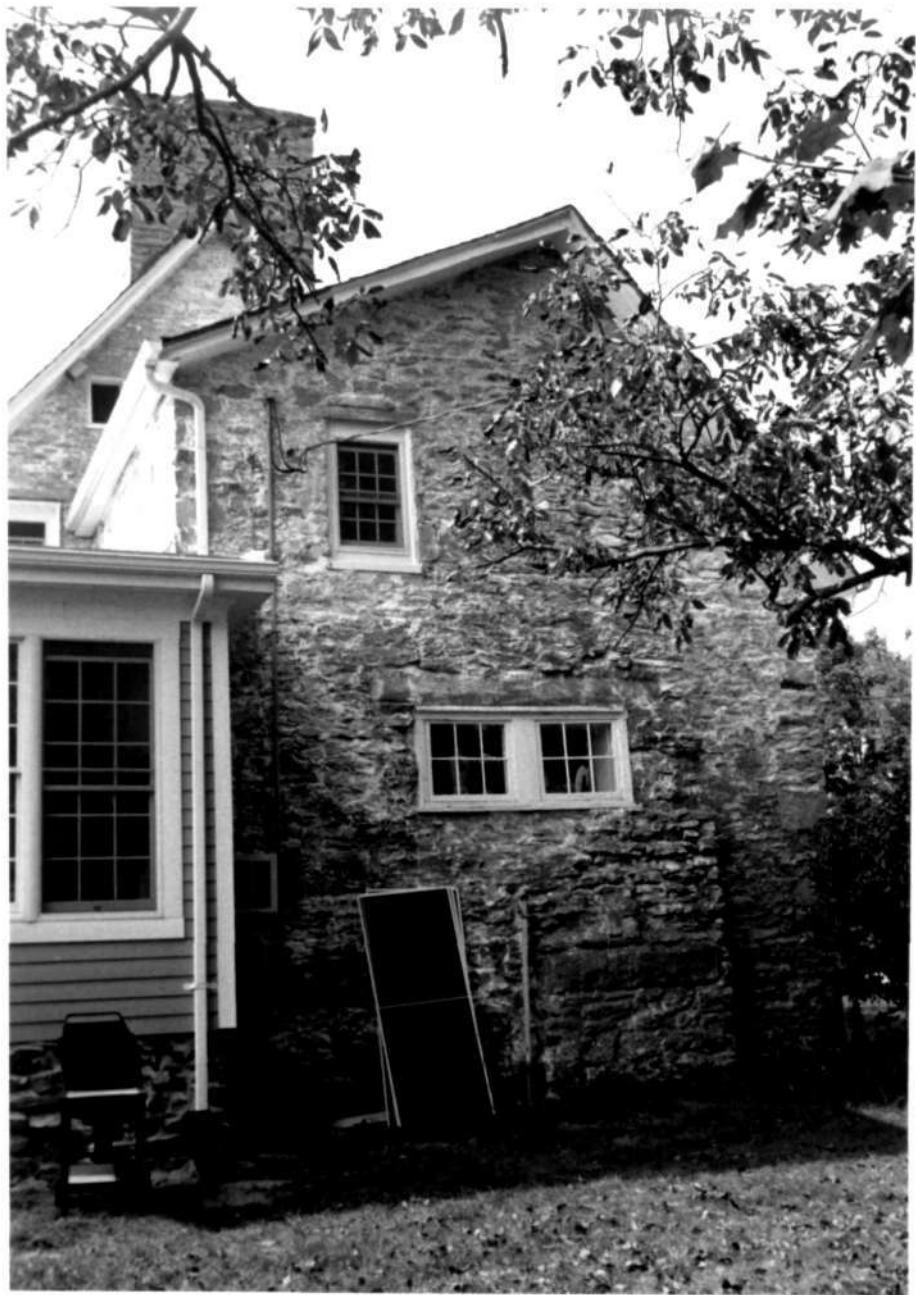
10/97

MD SHPO

House, northeast elevation

5 of 10.





HO-037

Athol

Howard County, MD

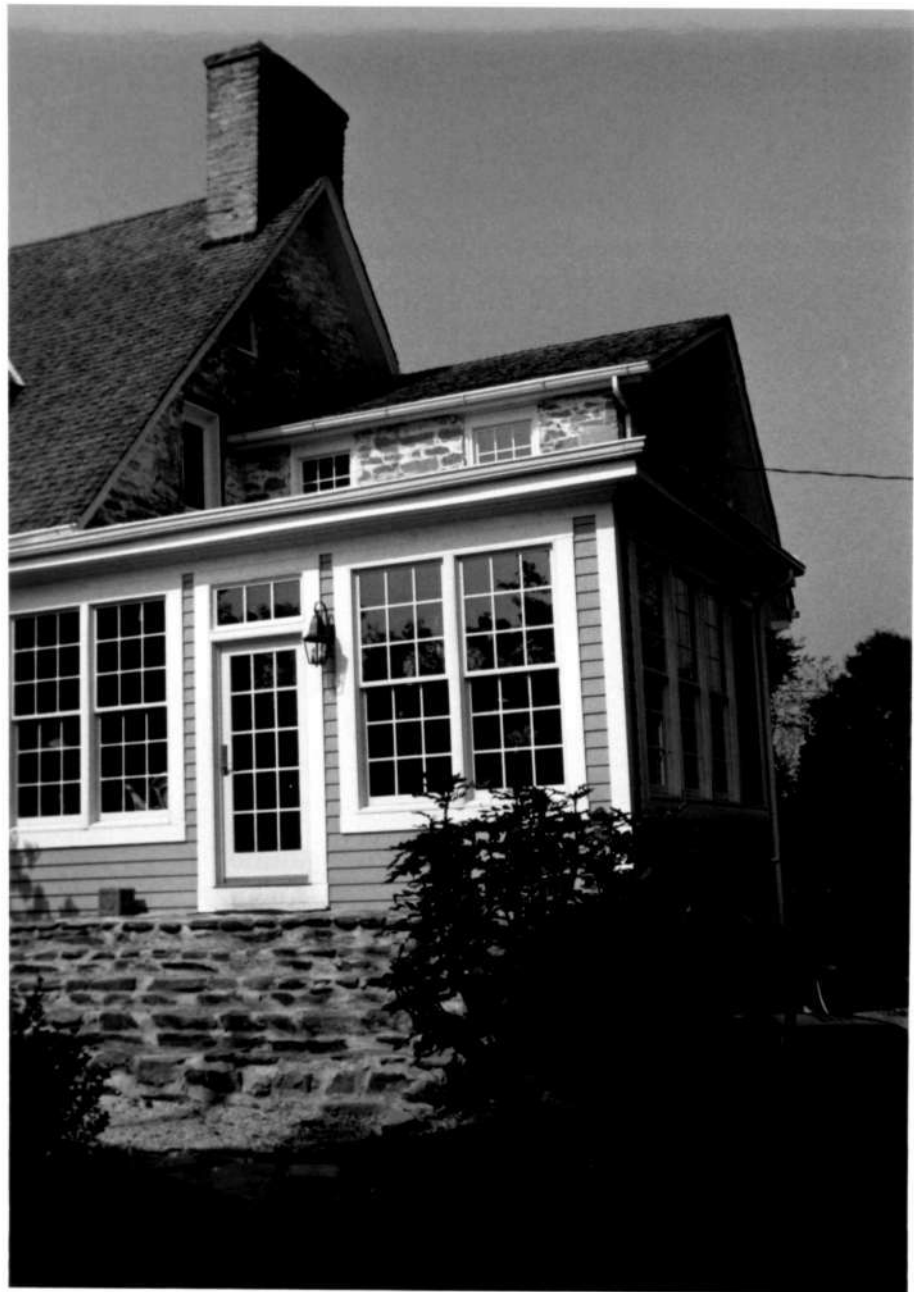
Traceries

10/97

MD SHPO

House, northeast elevation

6 of 10



HO-037

~~Atto~~1

Howard County, MD

Traceries

10/97

MD SHPO

House, northeast elevation

7 of 10



HO-037

Athol

Howard County, MD

Tracenes

10/97

MD SHPO

Foundation wall (northeast) beneath conservatory

8 of 10



HO-037

Athol

Howard County, MD

Traceries

10/97

MD SHPO

Garage, east corner

9 of 10





HO-037

Athol

Howard County, MD

Traceries

10/97

MD SHPO

Shed, east corner

10 of 10

HO-37  
ATHOL  
Columbia  
Private

District 5  
Circa 1740, 1768

Athol, the original rectory of the Old Brick Church or Christ Church, Guilford was built by the Reverend James MacGill who came from England to become the first episcopal priest in charge of Queen Caroline Parish Church, a chapel of Ease for Queen Anne's Parish in Annapolis.

It sits on a gently sloping hill west of Route 29 and south of Owen Brown Road.

It is composed of two wings facing south, the west wing completed in 1740 and the east wing addition constructed circa 1768.

The west wing is a one and a half story high, high-pitched gable roof (running east-west) stone structure two bays deep and three bays wide on the north wall, five bays wide on the south wall with wide east and west chimneys. Central rectangular north and south entrance doors surmounted by three lite transoms connect the central hall and stairway which has its original hand turned spindles and knewel post.

Three gabled roof dormer windows are placed on the north and south elevations. The east wing kitchen addition is a two bay wide, two bay deep one and half story high, high pitched gable roof stone structure with shed roofed enclosed porch lying on the south elevation. Constructed in ten years by the Reverend James MacGill with the aid of English brick masons who had the stone and left as their legacy one of Howard County's finest and most notable historic and architectural landmarks.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

## NOMINATION FORM

for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: Athol				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: 6680 U.S. Route 29, Columbia Pike				
CITY OR TOWN: Columbia				
STATE Maryland		COUNTY: Howard		
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: Edwina S. Pike				
STREET AND NUMBER: 6680 U.S. Route 29				
CITY OR TOWN: Columbia City		STATE: Maryland		21045
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Hall of Records				
STREET AND NUMBER: Howard County Courthouse				
CITY OR TOWN: Ellicott City		STATE: Maryland		21043
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): Tax Map 35, Blk 24				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b> 275-63 14,302 acres				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Howard County Historic Sites Inventory				
DATE OF SURVEY: 1976 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historic Trust				
STREET AND NUMBER: 21 State Circle				
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis		STATE: Maryland		21401

HO-37

7. DESCRIPTION			
CONDITION	(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair
	(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncolored	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved
	(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site			
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE			
<p>Athol, the original rectory of the Old Brick Church or Christ Church, Guilford was built by the Reverend James Macquill who came from England to become the first episcopal priest in charge of the Old Brick Church or more offically, Queen Caroline Parish Church, a Chapel of Ease for Queen Anne's Parish in Annapolis.</p> <p>It sits on a gently sloping hill west of Route 29 and south of Owen Brown Road, and is composed of two wings, the west wing completed in 1740 and the east wing addition constructed circa 1768.</p> <p>The west wing is a one and a half story high, pitched gable roof (running east-west) stone structure two bays deep and five bays wide facing south, with wide stone chimneys inset into its east and west walls. Central rectangular north and south entrance doors surmounted by three lite transoms connect the central hall and stairway which has its original hand turned spindles and knewel post. Three gabled roof dormer windows are placed in the roof on the north and south elevations.</p> <p>The west wall of the west wing holds two first floor windows, two second floor double hung windows with six-over-six lights and two third floor casement windows, on either side of the wide central chimney which holds four flues. Windows are decorated with flat stone lintels and wooden sills on the second floor and wooden lintels on the first floor.</p> <p>The south entrance door is approached by four wide steps and flanked by two rectangular double-hung windows with four-over-four lites while the north entrance door is flanked by only one double-hung window holding four-over-four lites.</p> <p>The east wall holds a third floor casement window in the south bay while the original one and a half story kitchen east addition rests along its almost entire elevation. Constructed of stone, it is two bays wide and two bays deep with a high pitched gabled roof. It holds two six lite rectangular windows on the north wall, a six lite casement window on the east wall on each side of the remains of the original central kitchen chimney and two east and west bay windows flanking a rectangular south entrance into the kitchen. An enclosed shed roofed porch lies along the south wall of this kitchen wing which may or may not have been added at the time of the construction of the kitchen wing circa 1768. It holds on its south wall three rectangular double hung windows with six-over-one lites and a rectangular entrance door in the second east bay of the south wall surmounted by a six lite transom. When looking at the north elevation the two wings appear to be one. It is only on the south and east elevation that the smaller scale of the east wing appears.</p> <p>A stone lintel is placed on the south elevation above a cellar window with the initials JSM standing for Jamie and Sarah Macquill and the date 1740 in the following manner M</p> <p style="text-align: center;">17                      40 J                      S</p> <p>Athol took ten years to build. In 1952 when Mr. &amp; Mrs. Dikes bought Athol it took two years of study and ten years to restore the old 18th century house. The living room which takes up the entire western side of</p>			



Athol  
Antioch  
Description  
Continued

H0-37  
District 5

the west wing may at one time have been two rooms but this is conjecture and has remained one large room in its restoration.

Victorian woodwork and mantelpiece enclosed the whole fireplace constructed of interior splayed brick. This was uncovered and with it a mammoth fireplace of stone constructure with a large stone centered in back which appears to have on its face a chalice surmounted by a paten, the bread and wine used in the communion service of the Episcopal Church, then the Church of England.

Chair rail and other woodwork in this room was copied after similar designs of the period in the restoration, some work being copies of the Patuxent Room in ~~Winterthur~~ Delaware. Floors which were put in over the original floors are parkay. Bannisters, old door for upstairs closets and mantles were taken out of old homes.

The Victorian mantle piece in the original dining room now used as a den is similar to the one found in the living room and is a later addition. The walls were extended out for greater insulation and then plastered.

Upstairs there are two bedrooms each on the east and west side of the hall with a central bath on the north side of the house. Originally the kitchen was located in the basement. Bars in the windows kept people from pillaging the food and wine, while underneath the present kitchen through the crawl space in the cellar is a beehive oven in the base of the east chimney.

The rafters in the attic hold eight sided pillars with pegs. In between the rafters are original wooden shakes with hand made nails.

A marking stone inscribed Athol, 1730 is now located on land owned by the Rouse Company. A study of it conducted by Antioch revealed that the original plants around it have remained virtually untouched. The house originally continued virtually no closets. Clothes were placed in armors and the linen room had shelves. Pegs and hook were also used for clothes storage.

Horse racing and parties were held. People spent the night and slept on palets while musicians might well have used the upstairs landing as a musicians balcony.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian      ☐ 16th Century      ☒ 18th Century      ☐ 20th Century  
☐ 15th Century      ☐ 17th Century      ☐ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                      |   |  |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic     | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry    | losophy                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention   | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | Architecture                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature  | itarian                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music       | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Athol was begun in 1730 and completed in 1740. It is therefore, one of the earliest remaining homes of Howard County and should be considered for inclusion into the National Register as an excellent example of early Georgian style architecture as exemplified in Howard County, Maryland.

The following is a copy of the original land grant of King Charles to James Macgill. A corner stone on Athol dated 1740 gives the date of completion of Athol while this grant (P.L. #8; folio 604 Land Office, Annapolis, Maryland) gives the date of August 17, 1732. A stone found on the property is dated 1730-Athol. Athol was thus constructed between the years of 1730 and 1740.

"Charles R. know ye that forein considoral that the Rev. James MacGill of Ann Arundel County in our Province of Maryland due unto him 600 acres of land with in our same province by virtue of two warrant for that quantity granted him, the one for 400 acres, bearing date 1st day of Septem 17 and 30 and the other for the remaining 200 acres bearing date the 19 Jan. in the same year as appeared in our land office and upon such condition and forms as are expressed in our conditions of plantation of our said Province bearing date the 5th day of April 1684 and remain upon record in our Province. Together with such attention as in them are made by our further considerations bearing date the 4th day of December 1696. Together also with the attention made by our instructions, bearing date London at London the 12th day of September 1712 and registered in our secretary's office of our said Province, we do therefore, hereby grant unto him the said James MacGill all that tract or parcell of land called Athol, lying and being in the County aforesaid in a fork of Patuxent River called Winkepin fork beginning at a bounded white oak now bounded and a stone erected on the one side J.M. and on the other thus 17X30 standing at the end of the north 73° and a half east 232 purchase (their method of measurement) course of a tract of land called Hunting Ground which said tree and stone stands on the east side (had been hidden by people until Rouse bought the land - it is on Rouse Company property-if there is ever a dispute in County overland, they go back to that stone. HRD had Antioch make a survey. The plants around this stone were undisturbed all these years - ie original azellas) high the mouth of a fork of a run called Beaver's Run and Running Thence south and by west 369 purchase thence north 80° and a half east 263 purchase thence north 24° and a half east one hundred forty three purchase and a half perch and thence north 18° west 153 purchase thence south 72 degrees west 45 purchase (a rod) thence north 18° west 53

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



Athol  
Sign. cont.

Thense north 72° east 45 purchase thense north 18° west 53 thense north 72° east 45 purchase thense north 18° west 104.

purchase thence south 76 degrees west 144 purchase thence with a straight line to the beginning place contain and now laid out for 600 acres of land more or less according to the certificate of survey thereof taken and returned into our land office, bearing date 22 day of January 1730 there so remain together with all rights, profits, benefits and privileges there unto belonging royal miners to have and to hold the same unto him the said James MacGill, his heirs and assigns forever to be holden of us and our heirs as of our manor of Ann Arundel in free and common serrage by fealty only for all manner of service yielding and paying therefore yearly unto us and our heirs at our receipt of the city of St. Maries at the two most usual feasts in the year VIZ the feast of the communion of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Michael the Arch Angel by even and equal portions the rent of one pound, 4 shillings sterling in silver or gold and for a fine upon every alienation of the said land or any part or parcell therof one whole years rent in silver or gold or the full value thereof in such conditions as we and our heirs or such officer or offices as shall be appointed by us and our heirs from time to time to collect and recieve the same shall accept in discharges thereof at the choice of us and our heirs for such officer or offices aforesaid provided that if the said sum for a fine for alienation and shall not be paid unto us and our heirs or such officer or offices aforesaid before such alienation and the said alienation entered upon record either in the provincial court or county court where the same parcel of land lyeth, within one month next after such alienation then the said alienation shall be void and of in effect. Given under our great seal of said Province of Md. the 29 day of August 1732.

Further, Athol's association with Reverend James MacGill, first rector of Christ Church, Guilford, established in 1728, ties it to the early religious and social practices of the day.

The church in the 1700's was the social focal point around which the leaders of Howard County flocked. Pew holders of the Old Brick Church included Thomas Worthington, Caleb Dorsey, Judge R. Ridgely and many other notable leaders of Howard County.

The influence of the church was of tremendous importance in almost every area of the life of the Howard Countian. Horse races were held on Sunday afternoon at Athol along with pot luck suppers, dances and all sorts of entertainment.

Of outstanding significance historically and architecturally Athol is a unique and significant feature in the life and development of Howard County and the State of Maryland and should be included into the National Register of Historic Places as the Rectory of the Old Brick Church.

Note: Moreland bought by James MacGill in 1768 BC-GS #18 Folio 441  
Land Office, Annapolis, Maryland.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Warfield, J. D. Founders of Ann Arundel and Howard Counties, Maryland. Baltimore, 1972. pp. 388, 393

Stein, C.F., Jr. History of Howard County, Maryland, Baltimore, 1972 p. 270  
p. 280

Interview with Mrs. Edwina Dike (596-4342) on January 21, 1977

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

Please see Tax Map #35  
Block 24  
275-63 14.302 acres

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Cleora B. Thompson		
ORGANIZATION Comprehensive Planning Section	DATE	
STREET AND NUMBER: 3450 Courthouse Drive		
CITY OR TOWN: Ellicott	STATE Maryland	21043

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



2 F-36

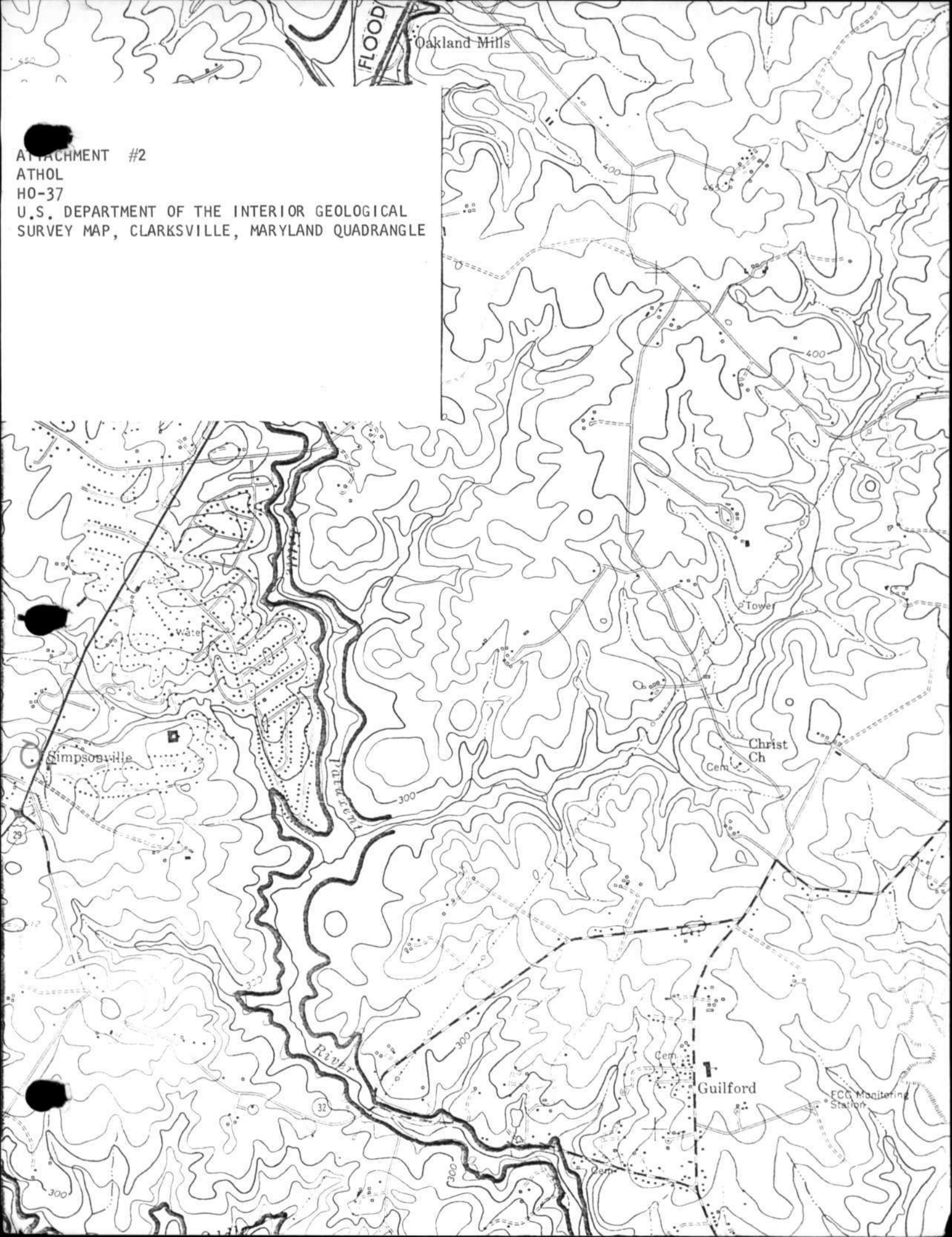
Scale  
1" = 800'

ATTACHMENT #2

ATHOL

HO-37

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL  
SURVEY MAP, CLARKSVILLE, MARYLAND QUADRANGLE







DIST 5 HO-37

ATHOL

CB THOMPSON



ATHOL (HO-37)

SUMMER, 1929

FROM LEFT:

1. MELVIN I. COAR (1900-1948) OWNER FROM 1927 to 1946
  2. MARY COAR (1862-1957) AUNT OF MELVIN COAR
  3. MARY CHARLOTTE COAR (MRS. HAMILTON HAINS, Jr.) (1928- )  
DAUGHTER OF MELVIN COAR  
CURRENTLY ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, HOWARD CO. HISTORICAL SOCIETY
  4. HILDA CAROLINE COAR (MRS. RICHARD B. BOCKMILLER) (1910- )
- \*CUPOLA WAS REMOVED BY COAR DUE TO DETERIORATION.

DONATED BY: STEPHEN R. BOCKMILLER

STUDENT INTERN, HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING  
MARCH 2, 1988

US 29 from Middle Patuxent River to MD 175  
Athol: HO-37

Howard County, Maryland  
Addendum

October 14, 2011

EHT Tracerics

HO-37  
Athol  
6680 Martin Road  
Columbia, Maryland  
Howard County  
EHT Tracerics, Inc.  
October 14, 2011

### **ADDENDUM**

The property at 6608 Martin Road was surveyed in 1997, resulting in the completion of MIHP and DOE forms. The 1997 effort was a reconnaissance survey, and recorded only the exterior of the buildings. In response to a request made by the Maryland State Highway Administration for purposes relating to the US 29: Middle Patuxent River to MD 175, staff from EHT Tracerics, Inc. prepared an addendum describing the current state of the property with an intensive-level (interior) survey, assessment of integrity and application of National Register Criteria. Supplemental documentation included black-and-white photographs, color slides of the property, sketch floor plan, and site plan.

#### **Section 3: Owner of Property**

Michelle Lynn Armstrong  
6680 Martin Road  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

#### **Section 4: Location of Legal Description**

Courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Maryland Property Records (SDAT)

City, town: <http://mdlandrec.net>

Liber 13373/Folio 7

Tax Map 36    Tax Parcel 495    Tax ID Number: 403219

#### **Section 7:        Description**

##### Exterior Description

The property has not undergone any significant exterior changes since it was surveyed in 1997. It consists of the primary dwelling (ca. 1740), cow shed (1950s), and garage (ca. 1940).

Since the 1997 survey, the dormer windows, gable end windows, and the window sash of the post-1798 stone addition have been replaced. The new windows, replacing 6/6 metal sash, are now 1/1 vinyl sash with false 6/6 muntins. Most of these windows were replaced ca. 2000 by a previous owner and the remaining replaced by a subsequent owner in the late 2000s. The 4/4 windows of the first story of the main block are historic, with what appears to be cylinder glass panes and very narrow muntin profiles.



October 14, 2011

EHT Tracerics

These windows do not appear to be original but rather date from the early nineteenth century. The dormers are unequally spaced in comparison to the openings on the first story of the main block, suggesting they are later additions or replacement dormers. There was no visible evidence within the roof structure to challenge this thesis, as the dormers are located within the second floor where the walls are furred and paneled.

The date 1740 is carved into the lintel of the basement window to the immediate left of the main entry on the south elevation. This notation was not located during the 1997 survey because of the foundation landscaping.

The large stone addition on the northeast elevation was recorded in the 1997 MIHP form as dating from 1768. There is no evidence to support this date, save the inscription on the lintel of the fireplace opening on the east side of the basement in the original main block; this lintel is located in the original portion of the house and not in the addition. Further, the addition was not recorded on the 1798 Federal Direct Tax. As noted in the MIHP form, the conservatory was added in the 1980s. Since the 1997 survey, a wood deck was constructed to wrap around the south and east sides of this addition. Historic images, coupled with a series of foundations and masonry steps located under the current conservatory structure, document that this is at least the third porch-like structure to be constructed at this location.

#### Interior Description

The primary dwelling presents a center-passage, double-pile plan, with two floors set over a full basement. The interior was renovated in the late nineteenth century to reflect Victorian-era architecture. Much of this non-original stylized detailing was removed in the 1950s. Some of the materials from the 1950s renovation are reproductions but historic materials salvaged from other colonial-era buildings were also used, representing an interpretative interior rather than a restoration. A minimal amount of original material remains visible only at the basement and attic spaces; this is purely structural and not ornamental. Unless specifically noted, all material at the first and second floors is replacement, reflecting the 1950s renovations in both materials and design. The mid-twentieth-century renovations are seen throughout the house, specifically at molding detailing at the baseboards, chair rails and cornices, as well as vertical beaded board covering the walls. The mantels are replacement, although historic materials from other colonial-era and nineteenth-century buildings since demolished.

The center passage is reached by primary entry openings on both the north and south elevations of the dwelling and provides access to the flanking parlors. The floors, a product of the Victorian-era alterations, are composed of three-inch boards of pine, with a one-inch board of walnut acting as an ornamental border. The baseboards, dating from the 1950s renovation, stand six inches high with a quadrant kick molding, fillet- and ogee-molded cap. Also dating from the 1950s are the torus-molded chair board and four-inch-wide square-edged casing with narrow fillet around the entry openings. The entry surrounds are finished with a simple square-edged corner block. The ceiling is edged with a fillet-molded architrave and cornice with ogee molding dating from the 1950s renovations; this same molding trims the carriage of the dog-leg stair that dominates the passage. The starter step for the stair fronts the southern entry opening. The newel, which appears to date from the eighteenth century, but is possibly salvaged material, has a

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squared plinth and cap with round shaft. The wide, molded rail, typical of the late nineteenth century, is supported by Colonial-style balusters (possibly replacement). The balustrade at the stairhead, framing the opening, is from the late nineteenth century, complete with a fancy-turned landing newel and thin turned balusters. The handrail capping this balustrade has a more pronounced gripper molding than that on the first floor.

Like the center passage, the floors throughout the first floor of the original main block have been replaced with three-inch boards of pine, with two one-inch boards of walnut acting as an ornamental border. Each of the larger parlors has the same profile on the baseboards, chair board, and surrounds as those of the center passage. The wood doors have four panels with late-nineteenth-century hardware. The walls of the narrower north room are vertical beaded boards secured by a square-edged baseboard with quadrant kick molding, dating from the 1950s restoration. The original rafters supporting the second story have been exposed, showing ghosting of lath and plaster.

The west parlor, reached via two single-leaf entry openings from the center passage, originally was divided into two spaces; the southern room was more than twice the size of the northern room or hall. The dividing wall has since been removed and only an encased support beam remains to mark its location. The fireplace opening was enclosed in the late nineteenth century, possibly allowing for the insertion of a stove or smaller Victorian-era mantel. Reopened in the 1950s, the opening extends nearly the full width of the chimney breast, with a brick hearth and stone back. The opening has a segmental arch of brick framed by an exaggerated ogee-molded surround with reeding and side bead from the 1950s renovations. The chimney breast originally was angled on the north side to allow for a secondary fireplace opening used to heat the smaller of the two rooms. No signs of the fireplace opening remain extant on this floor, but are visible in the basement.

The east side of the house retains its original configuration, with a larger parlor at the south side and narrower room or hall on the north side. The expansive stone chimney breast, enclosed with a plaster wall, has an undersized wood mantel dating from the late nineteenth century. Rising over four feet high, the mantel has fluted pilasters supporting the plain frieze board. Ogee bed molding sits under the square-edged shelf. Molding with a beaded return has been applied to the wall above the mantel. A half-bath dating from the mid-twentieth century has been installed on the east of the room, south of the chimney breast. The angled mantel of the north room is located along the north side of the eastern chimney breast. This Victorian-era mantel, completed with brick hearth, has squared plinths supporting the plain pilasters. The unadorned frieze board leads to the ogee-molded bed molding under the square-edged shelf.

A one-room addition was added to the northern end of the building's east elevation post-1798. This stone addition provides a kitchen on the first floor and small room on the second floor. Access between the two floors is provided by an enclosed winder stair on the north wall. The kitchen is modern with cabinets lining the east and west walls. The second-floor room features detailing dating from the 1950s renovation and is much like the main block of the house.

The second floor has the same original configuration as the first floor, providing larger bedrooms on the south side with narrower rooms on the north side. The replacement floors are four inches wide with a

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five-inch baseboard with ogee cap and quadrant kick molding. The entry surrounds are square edged with plain corner blocks. The walls have been covered in vertical beaded boards, a product of the 1950s renovations. A full bath dating from the mid-twentieth century has been added to the north side of the second-floor stair hall. A five-foot high mantel adorns the chimney breast of the west bedroom. It has a stone hearth and back with fluted pilasters set on plain plinths. The fluting continues along the edges of the frieze board, with ogee bed molding supporting the shallow ogee-molded shelf. The rooms are illuminated by the dormers, with the walls furred out to obscure the hand-hewn rafters of the roof that are bird-mouthed over the false plate. Machine-cut lath secures the plaster and drywall.

Access to the attic that runs the full width of the main block is provided by an enclosed straight-flight stair, which is a continuation of the main dog-leg stair. The attic has hand-hewn principal and common rafters that are pegged mortise and tenon; the rafters are secured by pegged collar beams. No scribe marks were noted. The floors consist of six-inch wide unfinished boards. A stylized lantern was placed on the center of the roof in the late nineteenth century; the lantern was removed in the 1950s. Access was gained through the attic via a spiral stair of wood that remains.

The full basement has recently received a poured concrete floor and limestone finish to the stone walls. The original joists and cellar girt are exposed, showing hand-hewn marks. The stone chimney breasts at either end of the basement have mortise-and-tenon chimney girt. The chimney breast on the east side has a massive stone lintel with a side bead. Painted white, it is carved with "MIS 1768" and the date "1768." The chimney breast on the west wall is enclosed, but probably was not originally. The space is now reached through a rectangular opening without door on the east side; it has been suggested the space was used as part of the underground railroad to hide runaway slaves but there is no physical or written documentation to support this (this information was provided unsupported by a previous owner, Lisa Maria Smith). The presence of the corner fireplaces on the first floor are evidenced by the chimney girt. A short stair provides access to the space under the sun porch. This addition is the last of several porch additions, the foundations and stairs of which are still evident at the foundation level. Crawl space is provided under the post-1798 addition.

### Outbuildings

The 1950s cow shed is a one-story wood frame structure clad in vertical board-and-batten siding. It is placed on the ground without a structural foundation; posts are set directly into the ground. The side-gabled roof of the rectangular structure is covered in crimped V metal sheets with a plain rake board creating a slight overhang. Originally open on the south elevation, the shed was fully renovated and enclosed in the 2000s. A single-leaf entry door flanked by 6/6 false-muntin vinyl windows was added to the south elevation upon its enclosure. The north elevation has sliding doors.

The garage is believed to have been erected ca. 1940 and was fully renovated ca. 2000, prior to purchase of the property by the previous owner in 2001. It is covered in replacement board-and-batten siding, with a roll-up garage door that mimics the siding. The steeply pitched gable roof, covered in asphalt shingles, has wide overhanging eaves with plain rake board. The side and rear elevations have 6/6 false-muntin vinyl windows.

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## **Section 8: Significance**

The primary dwelling at Athol, located at 6680 Martin Road, is one of the oldest early- to mid-eighteenth-century stone houses in Howard County. The Georgian-style manor house was constructed as a rectory for James MacGill, the first Episcopal minister to serve the Old Brick Church of Guilford (founded 1711). The property, a glebe of 600 acres, was granted in 1732 to MacGill, who served the congregation until 1776. The land, which remained in the family until the turn of the nineteenth century, was named Athol in honor of MacGill's ancestral home in Scotland. The stone dwelling is believed to have been completed ca. 1740, as documented by inscribed lintels, and constructed by immigrant Scottish masons. In the late nineteenth century, the house was substantially altered by the removal of original interior detailing in favor of more stylized late-Victorian-era elements. The most significant alteration was the application of a lantern to the center of the building's roof. In the mid-twentieth century, much of the stylized ornamentation, including the lantern, were removed (evidence remains in the attic) and the house restored with an interpretative early- to mid-eighteenth-century appearance. The restoration was inspired by the success of Colonial Williamsburg, the opening of Winterthur, and the continued national acceptance of the Colonial Revival style, incorporating salvaged historic but not original fabric when possible. Originally set on 600 acres that included the church, the property has since been reduced to 2.3362 acres, with US 29 and Old Columbia Road to the immediate east.

### Integrity Assessment and Application of Criteria

Athol, the 600-acre tract granted in 1732 to James MacGill, provides a history of this part of Howard County, which was then part of Anne Arundel County. The property remained under the ownership of the MacGill family until the turn of the nineteenth century, thus presenting a context of James MacGill and his descendants in the eighteenth century. Further, the primary dwelling provides a context for studying the construction and Georgian plan of stone buildings from the early to mid-nineteenth century and the craftsmanship of immigrant Scottish masons believed to have erected it. However, sufficient physical integrity no longer survives to allow for a thorough study of these historic contexts. The 1997 MIHP form indicated the property was significant under Architecture and Religion. This current assessment finds that having served merely as a rectory until 1776 for a congregation located almost five miles to the southeast (and now physically separated and unrelated), that Athol should not be evaluated for its significance under Religion. The ca. 1740 stone dwelling is therefore evaluated only under Architecture.

The primary dwelling at Athol was constructed specifically at this location because of its proximity to the Old Brick Church of Guilford on land granted to James MacGill in 1732. The congregation, now known as Christ Church Guilford, remains active, meeting in a Georgian-style building erected in 1809. This current church was erected 33 years after MacGill ceased to serve the congregation. The rectory, serving just as a single-family dwelling with no direct association to the congregation after 1776, has been physically divided from the site of the church by US 29, as well as by unrelated nineteenth- and twentieth-century development. Moreover, the property has been reduced from its originally 600 acres to 2.3362 acres, improved by the primary dwelling and two twentieth-century buildings. The setting has changed substantially, with the development of a major transportation corridor (US 29) and nineteenth- and twentieth-century development, which required the landscape to be notably changed. The primary

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dwelling was enlarged after 1798 by a stone addition, which is a compatible historic structure that does not compromise the plan or materials of the main block. The wood-frame conservatory, the third such addition to be added to the southeast side of the house, is minimal in massing and plan, reading clearly as a twentieth-century addition. The application of the wrap-around porch at the turn of the twenty-first century further compromises the building's design and materials, but again is viewed as an addition. The removal of original materials in favor of late-Victorian-era elements such as the imposing stylized lantern and interior detailing altered the Georgian design beyond its plan and massing. Renovation of the building, especially with regard to the interior detailing, in the mid-twentieth century, further compromised the Georgian design. It is not apparent if the renovation followed the ghosting and physical evidence and/or the traditions and construction techniques of the early- to mid-eighteenth-century work, or rather was an interpretative reconstruction based on information resulting from the work at Colonial Williamsburg and Winterthur, as well as the popularity of the Colonial Revival style.

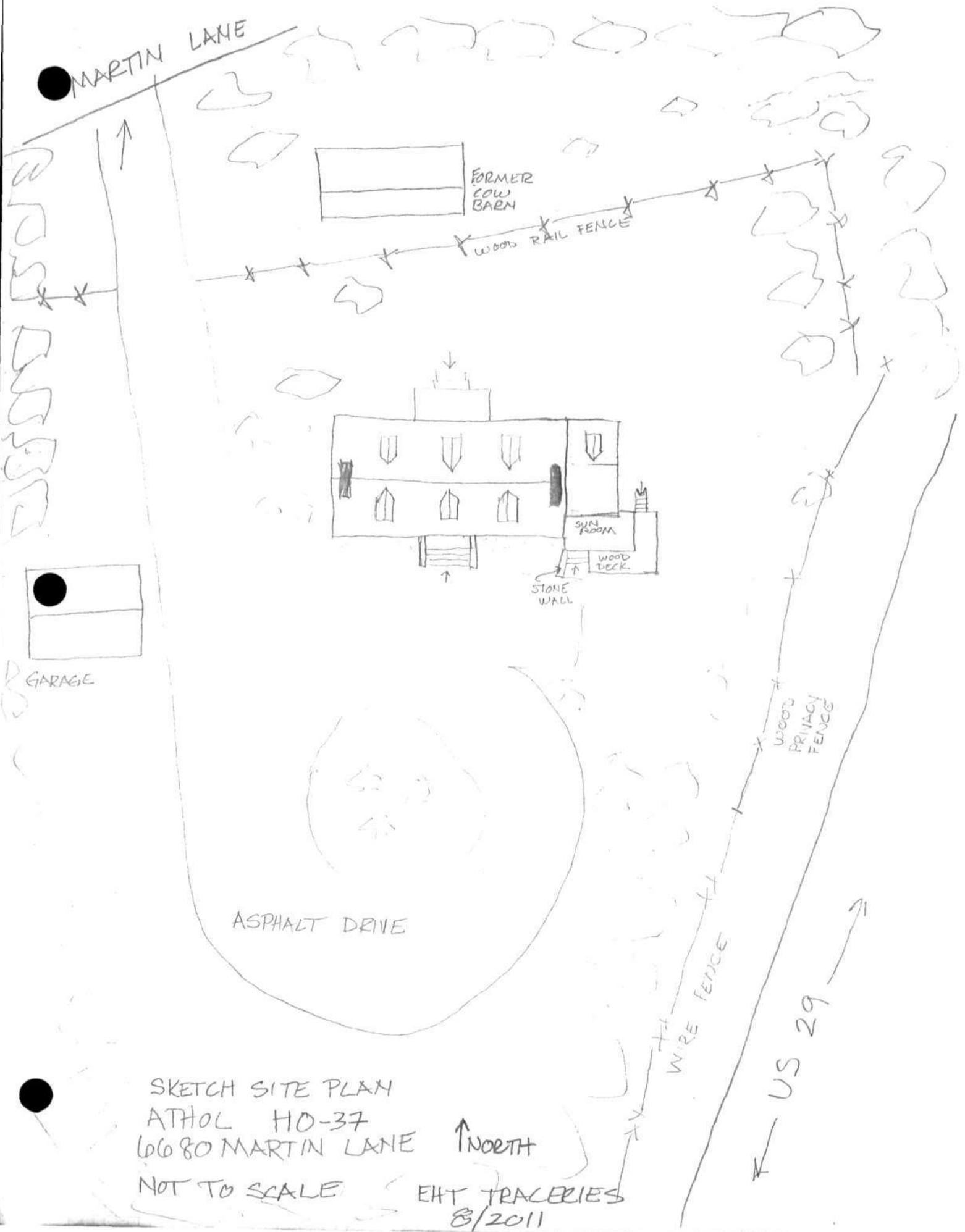
Therefore, Athol (consisting of 2.3362 acres with the ca. 1740 stone dwelling and two twentieth-century outbuildings) is not recommended eligible under Criteria A or C. Further, although James MacGill is important to the history of Old Brick Church (which was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1978 for architecture) and this part of Howard County, his mere contributions as rector cannot be reflected through the present church building or the now-altered Athol. Therefore, the property is not recommended eligible under Criterion B. The property was not evaluated under Criterion D. Thus, the remaining 2.3362 acres of Athol, along with the ca. 1740 stone dwelling and two associated outbuildings, is not recommended eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B, and C.

Chain of Title

July 3, 2001:                      Edwina S. Dike to Lisa Marie Smith  
   Land Records of Howard County  
   Liber 5564      Folio 697

August 5, 2011:                Lisa Marie Smith to Michelle Lynn Armstrong  
   Land Records of Howard County  
   Liber 13373      Folio 7





SKETCH SITE PLAN  
ATHOL HO-37  
6680 MARTIN LANE

↑ NORTH

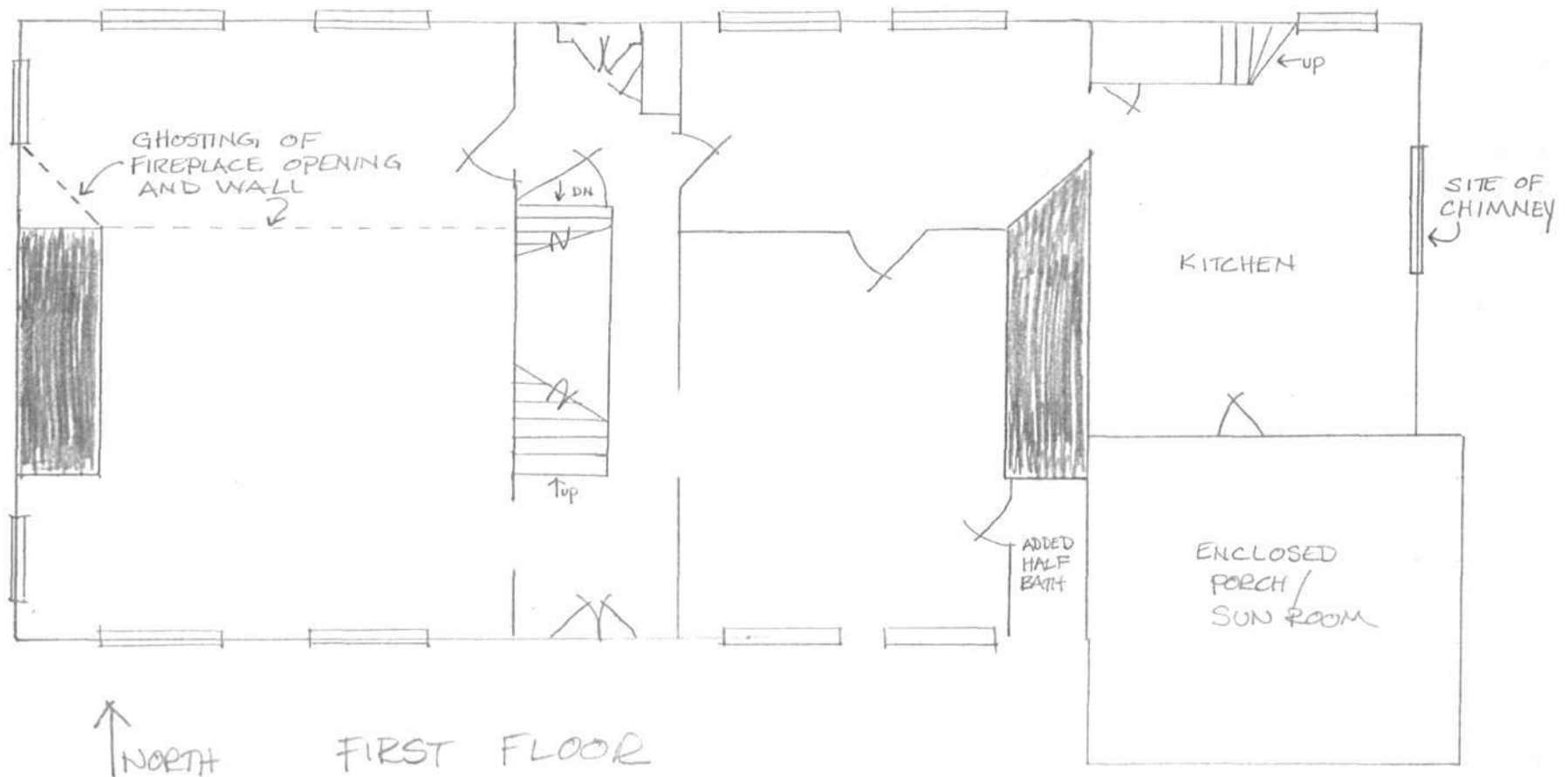
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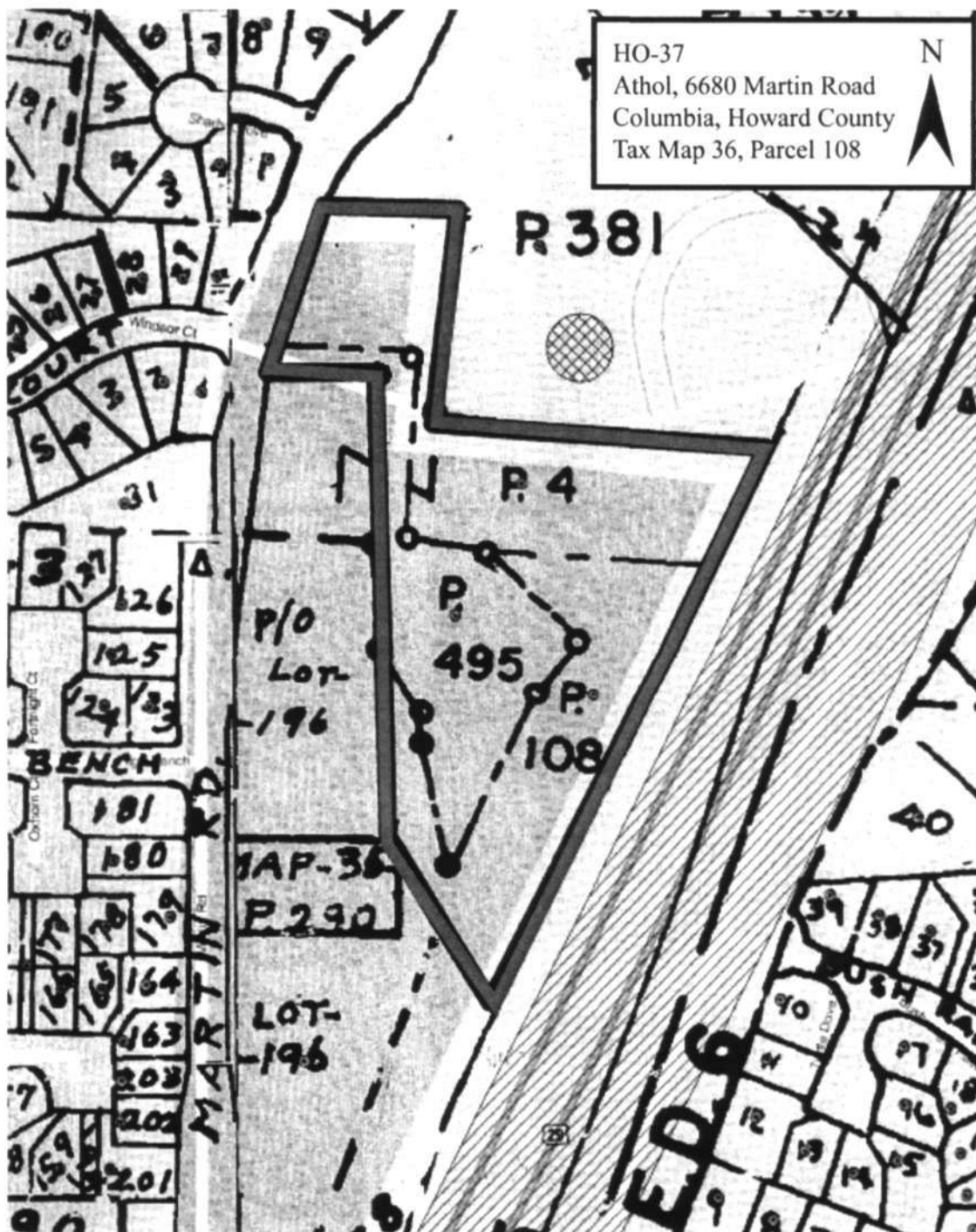
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# SKETCH FLOOR PLAN

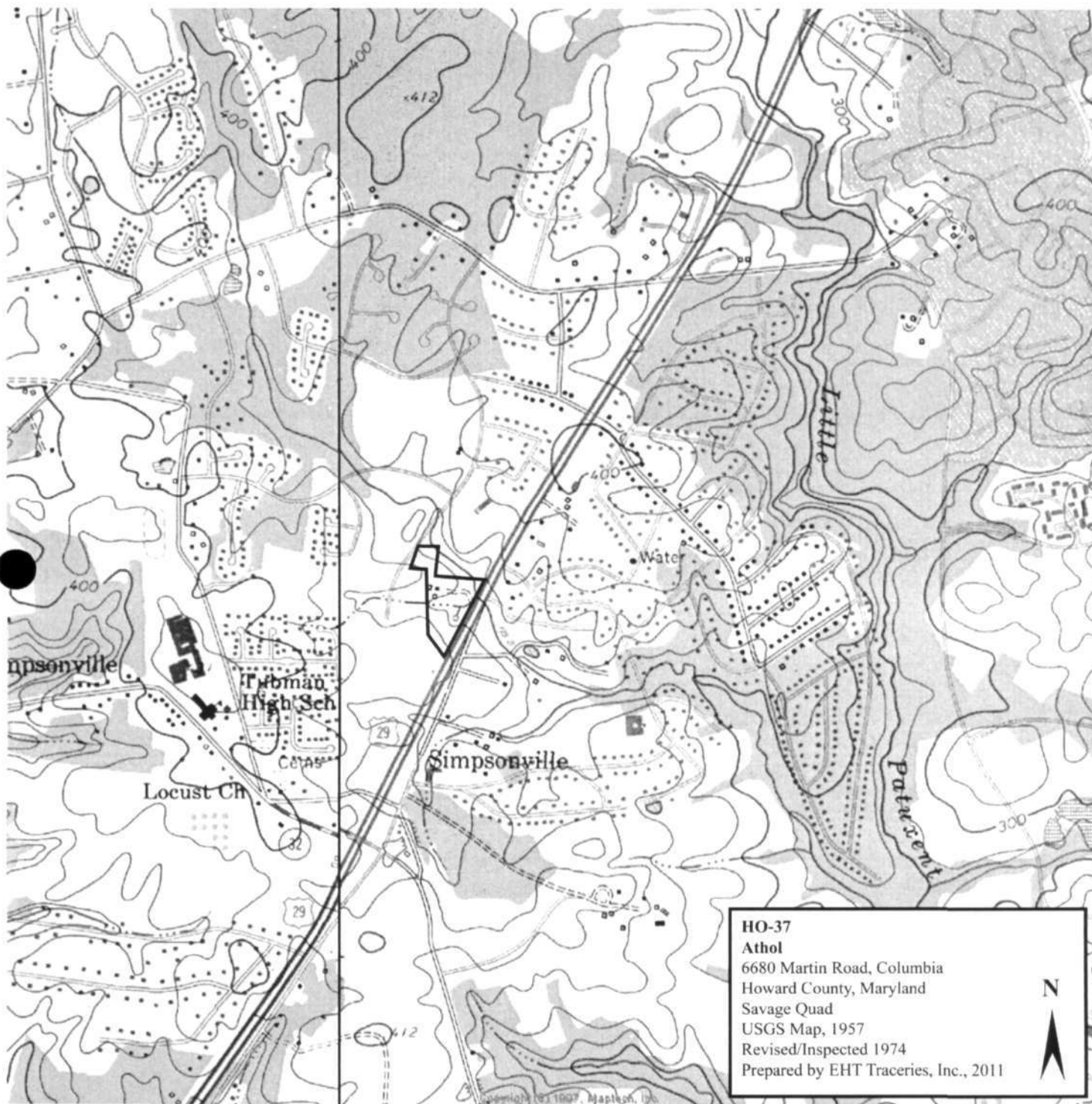
ATHOL HO-37  
6680 MARTIN LANE

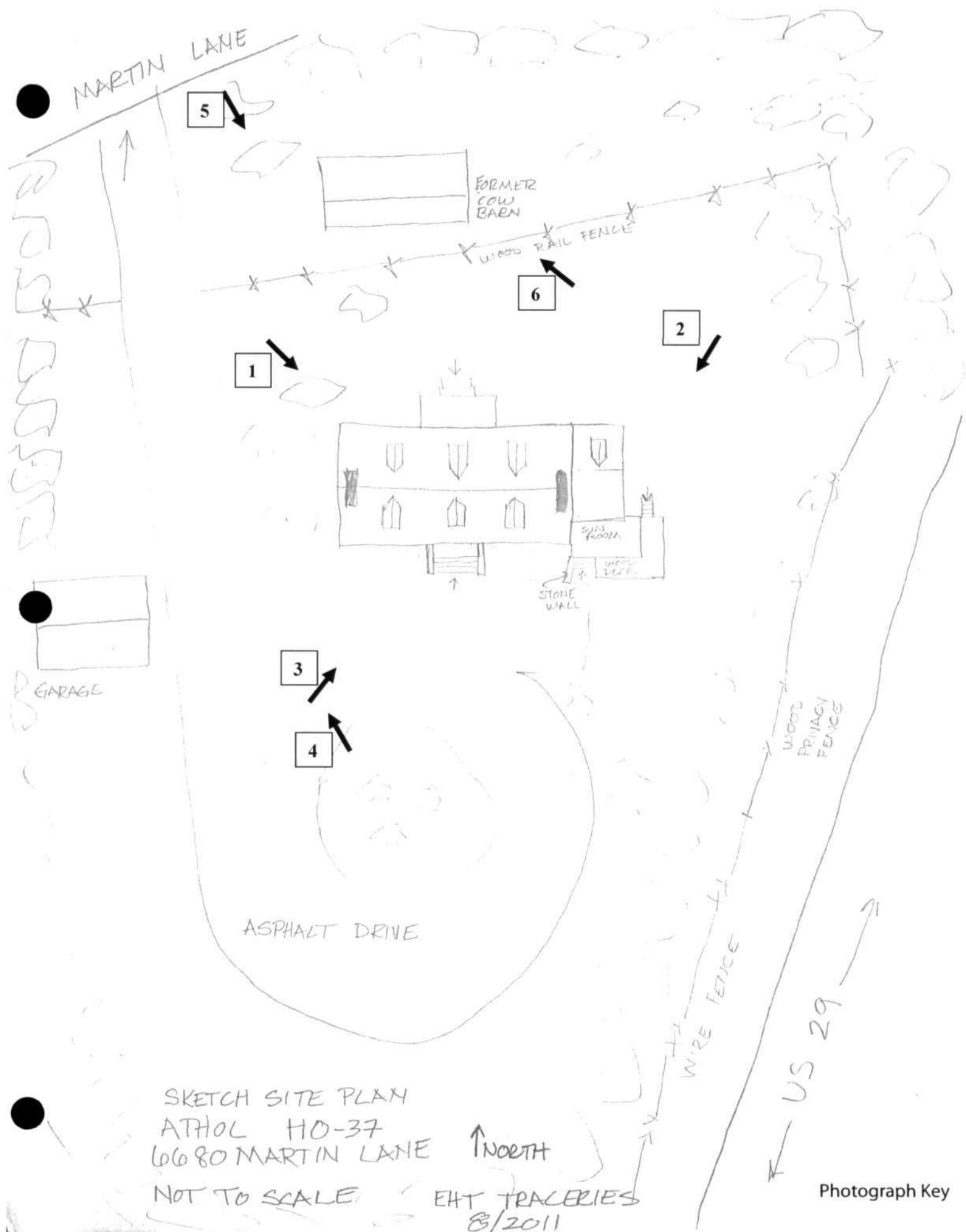
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9/2011













HO-37

Atchafalaya, 6680 Martin Road  
Howard County, MD  
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MD SHPO

House, northeast elevation

1/10



HU-37

Athol, 6680 Martin Road

Howard County, MD

Traceries

8/2011

MD ST100

House, northwest elevation, looking S

2/10



HO-37

Atty, 6680 Martin Road  
Howard County, MD

Traceries

8/2011

MD STIPD

House, ~~Southwest~~ elevation.

3/10

3/10





HO-37

Atthol, 6680 Martin Road  
Howard County, MD

Traceries

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MD SHPO

Shed and House, looking E

4/11a



HO-37

Athol, 6680 Martin Road.  
Howard County, MD

Traceries

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MD SHPD

Stedman House, looking NW

5/10



HO-37

Athol, 6680 Martin Road  
Howard County, MD

Traceries

8/2011

MD SHPO

Shed, looking W

5/16

6/16





HU-37

Athol, 6690 Martin Road

Howard County, MD

Trachies

6/2011

MD SHPO

House, Interior, First floor, left parlor and bathroom, looking E

9/1/10  
7/10



H10-37

Atul, 6680 Martin Road

Howard County, MD

Traceries

8/2011

MD SHPO

House, Interior, Second floor hallway

8/11/13



HO-37

Athol, 6680 Martin Road

Howard County, MD

Traceries

8/2011

MD SHPO

House, Interior, attic, looking W

9/10



H0-37

Atoll, 6680 Martin Road

Howard County, MD

Tracuris

8/2011

MD STIPO

House, interior, bare wall, looking S

10/10